

The relationship between the claims as amended is such that the separately claimed combination 9-13 includes the distinguishing features of the subcombination 1-8 as claimed.

AMENDMENT

In the Claims

Please amend claims 1, 9 and 12 as indicated below.

1. (Amended) A ground connector for use with an associated distribution transformer which comprises:

a base, said base having a spade connector defining an opening and comprising a fixed jaw and a first guide portion; and

a movable member, said movable member defining a receiving cavity and comprising a movable jaw and a second guide portion, at least partially defined by the receiving cavity, said cavity receiving said first guide portion wherein said first guide portion and said second guide portion are configured for sliding engagement to guide longitudinal movement of said movable member with respect to said base to form a [vise-type] clamp, one of said first guide portion and said second guide portion has a pair of opposing ribs and said other said first guide portion and second guide portion has a pair of opposing channels which cooperate with said ribs; and

securement means for securing said base and movable member so that when a cable is received between said fixed jaw and said movable jaw, said jaws are securably clampable against said cable.

9. (Amended) A ground connector installation comprising:
- a distribution transformer, having a generally cylindrical shaped housing and having a ground connecting means;
 - a base, said base having a spade connector defining an opening and comprising a fixed jaw and a first guide portion;
 - a movable member, said movable member defining a receiving cavity and comprising a movable jaw and a second guide portion, at least partially defined by the receiving cavity, said cavity receiving said first guide portion wherein said first guide portion and said second guide portion are configured for sliding engagement to guide longitudinal movement of said movable member with respect to said base to form a [vise-type] clamp, one of said first guide portion and said second guide portion has a pair of opposing ribs and said other said first guide portion and second guide portion has a pair of opposing channels which cooperate with said ribs; and
 - securement means for securing said base and movable member so that when a cable is received between said fixed jaw and said movable jaw, said jaws are securably clampable against said cable; and
 - a bolt extending through said opening into said ground connecting means for mounting said base to said transformer.

12. (Amended) The ground connector installation of claim [3] 9, wherein said first guide portion has ribs and said second guide portion has cooperating channels.

Please add new claims 13-17 as follows:

- 13. The ground connector of claim 1, wherein said clamp secures a cable to the ground connector.

14. The ground connector of claim 13, wherein said cable is secured in said claim in an orientation which is perpendicular to a direction of said longitudinal movement of said movable member with respect to said base.

15 The ground connector installation of claim 9, wherein the fixed jaw and said movable jaw are defined by a pair of intersecting surfaces which extend transversely to the longitudinal movement of said movable member.

16 The ground connector installation of claim 9, wherein said securement means comprises a first bolt engagable with said movable member and threadably engaged to said base.

17 The ground connector installation of claim 9, wherein said movable member defines a longitudinal axis, said spade connector defining a plane orthogonal to said axis.--

A clean version of the amended claims and added claims is attached as separate pages to this Response.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the various objections and rejections set forth in the Office Action dated May 17, 2002, is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing Amendment and following Remarks.

Claims 1, 9 and 12 have been amended, and claim 13-17 have been added. The Amendment to the claims and new claims are supported by the specification.

Claim Objection to Formalities Corrected

Objection to amended claim 12 no longer applies. Claim 12, line 1 has been amended as per the Examiner's comment and discussion with Applicant's representative, Guy D. Yale, Esq. on May 13, 2002.